GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5227
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2002
ENVIRONMENTAL ATLAS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Environmental Atlas of India brought out by the Central Pollution Control Board highlights that 500 km. stretch of Yamuna between Delhi and Etawah as the country`s most polluted river;

(b) if so, the details of other such grey and black spots and stretches brought out by the Atlas which require immediate attention of the Government for de-pollution purposes; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to erase these spots from the Atlas?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) According to the Environmental Atlas of India and the water quality monitoring results of the Central Pollution Control Board, Yamuna river is polluted and does not meet the desired water quality criteria in its stretch from Delhi to Etawah.

(b) Other polluted river stretches according to water quality monitoring results presented in the said Atlas are Sabarmati at Ahmedabad, Gomti at Lucknow, the entire stretch of the river Kali, Adyar and Cooum, Vaigai at Madurai and Musi down stream of Hyderabad. Similarly river stretches of Ganga, down stream of Kanauj, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varansi, and Trighat; Godavari, down stream Nashik, Nanded and Rajamundary; Cauvery, down stream of Rangapattna, KRS Dam, Satyamangalam Bridge; Krishna between Mahabaleshwar and Sangli; Tapi between Nepanagar and Burhanpur; Mahanadi down stream of Cuttak, Mahi between Badnavar and Vasad, Brahamani down stream of Raurkela, Talcher and Dharmshala are also polluted.

(c) A scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) to take up pollution abatement works in 152 towns along the polluted stretches of 27 rivers spread over 16 States is under implementation. The Plan, among others, includes all the above rives/towns.